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From: Camacho, Alvaro [mailto:acamacho@ucsd.edu]  
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2009 2:23 PM  
To: EBSA, E-OHPSCA - EBSA  
Subject: MHPAEA - Wellstone/Dominici

Hello,

Practicing in a rural underserved predominantly Hispanic community close to the Mexico border, we find that the main constrain that our patients with comorbid psychiatric and substance abuse problem have is the lack of access and funding from MediCaid to recovery programs, therapeutical communities and long term residential rehabilitation programs.

Here in California, they get wonderful coverage if they are on probation, since they are court mandated.

The vast majority of our underserved population with addiction problems, without MediCaid coverage are left with almost no option for treatment, with the only remaining avenue being criminal behavior and continuous addictive behavior.

Thank you

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